

Message Text

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ORIGIN EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 IO-13 ISO-00 SIG-01 OIC-02 CIAE-00 DODE-00

PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01

SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 AF-08 ARA-06 EA-07 NEA-10 ABF-01

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DRAFTED BY EUR/CE:SMKLINGAMAN:EM

APPROVED BY IO:MR. TOUSSAINT

IO/IBC/BA -FMCCORMICK

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY BERN

INFO USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

USMISSION GENEVA

AMEMBASSY VIENNA

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

AMEMBASSY BERLIN

AMEMBASSY WARSAW

AMEMBASSY BUCHAREST

AMEMBASSY BELGRADE

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

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E.O. 11652: NA

TAGS: AORG, UN, SZ, AU

SUBJECT: UN ADMINISTRATION - DONAU PARK

SUMMARY: SWISS AMBASSADOR PROBST CALLED ON TOUSSAINT
NOVEMBER 16 TO REPORT A RUMOR THAT AN UNIDENTIFIED DEVELOP-
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ING COUNTRY WOULD PROPOSE TRANSFER OF ECE FROM GENEVA TO

VIENNA. TOUSSAINT SAID US HAD NOT HEARD THIS RUMOR AND THAT USG POSITION ON DONAU PARK QUESTIONS REMAINS UNCHANGED, I.E. IT IS UP TO THE SYG. END SUMMARY

1. SWISS AMBASSADOR PROBST CALLED ON IO DEPUTY ASSISTANT SECRETARY TOUSSAINT NOV. 16 TO DISCUSS DONAU PARK. HE SAID GOS HAS LEARNED FROM "A RELIABLE SOURCE" THAT A DEVELOPING COUNTRY WILL INITIATE A PROPOSAL AT END OF THIS UNGA SESSION TO MOVE ECE FROM GENEVA TO VIENNA. ACCORDING TO THIS SOURCE, THE PROPOSAL MIGHT BE SUPPORTED BY BELGIUM, SWEDEN, NETHERLANDS AND ALL EAST EUROPEAN COUNTRIES EXCEPT RUMANIA AND YUGOSLAVIA. (PROBST SAID SWISS AMBASSADORS HAD BEEN INSTRUCTED TO APPROACH FOREIGN MINISTRIES IN THOSE RESPECTIVE CAPITALS.) FRANCE, GREECE, AND YUGOSLAVIA WOULD REPORTEDLY OPPOSE. PROBST REITERATED GOS FIRM OPPOSITION TO A TRANSFER OF ECE FROM GENEVA TO VIENNA. HE SAID GOS POSITION IS THAT IN ANY CASE SUCH A MOVE SHOULD REQUIRE

CONSENT OF ECOSOC AND ECE AND SHOULD NOT BE ACCOMPLISHED BY AN UNGA RESOLUTION OVER THE HEADS OF THOSE ORGANS.

2. TOUSSAINT RESPONDED THAT USG HAS NO INFORMATION ABOUT A POSSIBLE NEW INITIATIVE TO MOVE ECE TO VIENNA. HE COMMENTED THAT IT SEEMED STRANGE THAT THE RUMORED PROPOSAL MIGHT BE MADE BY A DEVELOPING COUNTRY OUTSIDE OF ECE. PROBST VOLUNTEERED TO TRY TO FIND OUT SOURCE O GOS INFORMATION AND IDENTITY OF DEVELOPING COUNTRY.

3. ON GENERAL PROBLEM OF DONAU PARK, PROBST SAID GOS UNDERSTANDS AUSTRIA'S DESIRE TO FILL DONAU PARK SPACE AND EMPHASIZED THAT SWITZERLAND HAS NO PROBLEM WITH TRANSFER OF SOME ORGANIZATIONS (BUT NOT ECE) TO VIENNA. HE ADDED, HOWEVER, THAT IN SWISS VIEW THERE CAN BE ONLY ONE CITY LABELLED AS "EUROPEAN HEADQUARTERS FOR THE UN" AND THAT IS GENEVA. HE SAID THERE IS STILL SPACE AVAILABLE IN GENEVA AT WHO, ILO AND WIPO TO PERMIT NORMAL EXPANSION OF FACILITIES FOR INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS. PROBST NOTED THAT WHILE EXCHANGE RATE IS FREQUENTLY USED AS AN ARGUMENT AGAINST LOCATING IN GENEVA IT SHOULD BE REMEMBERED THAT SWITZERLAND CURRENTLY HAS ONE OF THE LOWEST LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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INFLATION RATES IN THE WORLD.

4. PROBST ALSO EXPRESSED CONCERN ABOUT AUSTRIAN DECISION TO BUILD A CONFERENCE CENTER AT ESTIMATED COST OF 250 MILLION DOLLARS IN DONAU PARK, WHICH HE FELT WAS CLEARLY INTENDED AS AN ADDED LURE TO ATTRACT ORGANIZATIONS TO VIENNA.

5. PROBST CONCLUDED BY EXPRESSING GOS CONTINUED DESIRE TO CONDUCT TRILATERAL DISCUSSIONS IN SAME FRAMEWORK AS IN PAST AND TO ACCEPT DECISION OF SYG. TOUSSAINT SAID THIS ALSO REMAINED US POSITION.

6. USUN 5346 SUMMARIZING SYG REPORT (A/C.5/31.34) ON UTILIZATION DONAUPARK IN VIENNA, IN WHICH ECE IS NOT MENTIONED, HAD NOT BEEN RECEIVED AT TIME OF MEETING. KISSINGER

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